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## BOOK REVIEWS

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LAW OFFICE AND COURT PROCEDURE. By Gleason L. Archer, LL. B.  
Boston: Little, Brown and Company.

To the young lawyer, fresh from law school training and versed only in the comparisons and contrast of innumerable cases, whose mind has been turned to the proposal or solution of legal problems, every treatise which may aid in the practical work of litigation is of interest. The above-entitled volume is largely adapted to the procedure in Massachusetts; a major portion of the pages are probably of little value outside of that jurisdiction.

Certain topics, however, in the Preparation for Trial, and in the Trial of Suits, are considered with clearness and useful suggestions are made. The advice in regard to familiarity with rules of evidence, to cross-examination and the argument to the jury are worth the study of the inexperienced advocate.

There are numerous illustrations of the questions to witnesses and their answers which elucidate the author's statements. It may be true that the eminent trial lawyer is born, not made; but while intuitive perceptions, celerity of judgment and personal magnetism cannot be acquired from printed pages, it is also true that even imperfect guidance in fields of professional labor, hitherto not traversed by him, may be most profitably sought by the neophyte from such sources as the above work on procedure. Its author has been both kind and wise in writing and publishing it.

*J. W. P.*

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HISTORY OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF LAW. By Honorable M. F. Morris.  
Washington: Byrne & Co.

Judge Morris deals, not with the development of a concrete system of law, but with the development of human law in the abstract. He attempts, in other words, to discover what impels man, who has a choice of actions, to select one rather than another. That which constrains him, aside from mere inclination, to do or not to do a particular act is known as the sanction of the law. And the rule of conduct which is to be adopted by reason of these sanctions is known as a law.

While the introduction of this work deals with the origin of human law, the remaining chapters treat of concrete systems of law. But the learned author seems to have forgotten to draw the deductions and conclusions from these desultory facts which the very nature of his work would demand. It is more of a narration of historical legal facts than a disquisition on the philosophy of law.

Judge Morris' intense prejudices are perhaps his most serious disqualification for such a work. He refers to William the Conqueror as an "enterprising ruffian" and to the Anglo Saxons as "bands of bloodthirsty savages," but his treatment of Blackstone is surely scurrilous and undeserving. He thinks the great commentator's "tongue